



# San Diego DX Club Bulletin

September 2012



**AUGUST MEETING**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 22, 2012**  
**AT THE SIZZLER STEAK HOUSE**  
**3755 MURPHY CANYON ROAD, SUITE S**  
**SAN DIEGO, CA 92123**  
**SOCIAL HOUR: 5:00 PM DINNER: 5:30 PM**  
**MEETING: 6:30 PM**  
**PROGRAM: MARTY WOLL, N6VI**  
**BEING DX—TALES OF A CONTEST EXPEDITIONER**

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**A Word from the Prez . . .****John Barcroft, K6AM**

Another great summer bash is in the log. Our thanks to George, N6VNI, Kris, KC6TOD and Carolyn, KE6BUH for being gracious hosts. They brought in some tasty Mexican comida to compliment the burgers and dogs. We had a smaller than usual crowd due to the oppressive heat in LA, but the turnout from San Diego was decent. Next year it's back to cool San Diego to see if we can top last year's party.

I hope you were able to work one of the rare ones that showed up this past month. We had VU7M, D64K and Spratly all on at the same time. Look for Swain's Island and Conway Reef coming up in the next month. I spoke with Charlie, W6KK at the bash and he reports all is a go with the NH8S team.

I was reading the Far East news at the Chinese restaurant and something caught my eye. It was an article on Scarborough "Shoal". Turns out that's what they call Scarborough Reef. If you haven't been following the news closely, there seems to be a big dispute between China and the Philippines over who owns this worthless sandbar. Of course it's really about the oil and fishing rights in the waters around the reef. Both sides have brought in a few warships and are playing a game of chicken. Bottom line - I doubt anyone will be going there to play ham radio for the foreseeable future.

The bands are looking up a bit with good openings on 20, 17 and 15 and occasional openings on 10. Get those antennas shined up and those rotors unfrozen and I'll see you in the pileups.

73, John

The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since its founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

## Secretary and Treasurer's Reports



**San Diego DX Club**

**July 25, 2012**

### Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 P.M.

The Sizzler will be undergoing a major re-model has been postponed slightly (late September or October) and may not interfere with our meeting schedule. The meeting room will be expanded and we look forward to that as we have felt a bit like sardines with capacity crowds in attendance at recent meetings. Stay closely tuned for details on upcoming meeting locations.

Visitors were introduced: Erik, KA6UAI (owner of 145.280 repeater), Tom, K6QIL and Daniel, KJ6YLV.

John, K6AM reported on the Top 10 for RTTY.

New Members Ernest, W4EG (full) and Rich, KI6RRQ (associate) were accepted into the club by majority vote.

A request was made to detail the procedures for acquiring club badges. [www.gbaudwards.com](http://www.gbaudwards.com) Glaser & Bailey Awards phone 760-743-5551. Work with Skip as he is familiar with our club badges.

A Roundtable discussion ensued followed by a presentation by Ned, AA7A.

The Club is still looking for a venue and host for our Holiday Bash to be held Sunday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>.

(Thanks to K6KAL and AF6WF for digitally recording the meeting)

NOTE: The Club has badges ready for K1GR and N7VM. Please contact N6UWW for delivery.

### Treasurer's Report

<b>Statement Balance 31-July, 2012</b>	<b>\$4,242.22</b>
<b>Subtractions</b>	
(N6ERD June meeting speaker's dinner)	\$11.96
(NCDXC donation)	\$500.00
(Hays Companies liability insurance premium)	\$375.00
<b>Deposits</b>	
(Marsh insurance premium refund)	\$315.00
<b>Outstanding check</b>	
(STC Network Systems—web hosting)	\$75.00
<b>Outstanding deposits</b>	
(Dues K6MY, W4EG, K6XT, KI6RRQ)	\$80.00
<b>Adjusted Balance</b>	<b>\$3,670.53</b>

Respectfully submitted,

73, Ellen

## The SDDXC Top 10

John, K6AM



### TOTAL COUNTRIES WORKED ON DIGITAL

8/12	8/11	CALL	ZNS	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	NN6K	40	324	325	325	+6
2.	2.	K0XB	40	317	322	322	+6
3.	3.	N7CW	39	244	244	296	-
4.	4.	N6ND	40	209	211	285	+3
5.	5.	W6YOO	38	252	255	255	+9
6.	6.	W6CN		173	176	185	-
7.	7.	AD6ZJ	31	168	169	183	+31
8.	-.	WB6BFG		154	154	183	NEW
9.	9.	N6CW	36	114	114	174	+30
10.	8.	K6XT	39	146	146	146	-

The perennial race between WB6BFG and AD6ZJ is in a dead heat as they both check in with big jumps. The others at the head of the pack also continue to jockey for position with Les, NN6K holding on to the lead.

There are plenty of new ones out there for the rest of us, so give the digital modes a try. RTTY is becoming more popular all the time. The advent of PSK31 and some other systems have really ignited a surge of interest. The old 60 WPM baudot mode is now heard mostly only on contest weekends.

New software is being introduced all the time. MMTTY is a good one when used with Writelog and a Sound-blaster card. Most of the expeditions are now doing a fair amount of RTTY for The Deserving. We'll be looking for many more entries next year in this fun but under-represented category.

Each month, we will publish a Top Ten list for one of the lesser recognized but hard fought categories. Coming up next, phone and CW. Please send me your totals for each band and mode throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.

73, John



## Cover Story and Editor's Rambling

**Bob Farkaly, K9RHY**

Like many of my fellow SDDXCers, I put the 7O6T Socotra Island expedition in my logbook several times at the beginning of May. I didn't really need 7O, having confirmed 7O1AA, 7O8AA, 7O1RBJ and 4W0PA years ago. But I did need this particular 7O for a new IOTA counter, AF-028 in the Gulf of Aden because the other operations had been from land in North Yemen, more specifically, from the city of Sana'a. If you worked 7O6T, this bit of photo-journalism may be of interest to you.



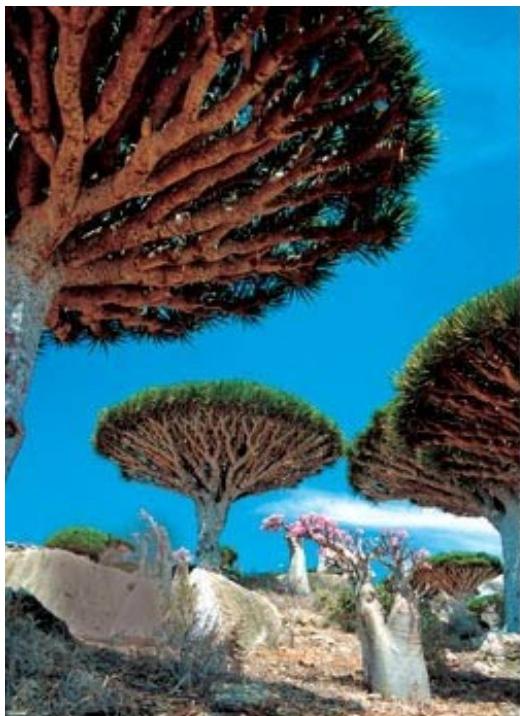
The Island of Socotra lies in the Gulf of Aden, off the horn of Africa and the coast of Yemen in an area plied by Somali pirates. As you will see from the pictures, Socotra is unlike any other place on the earth. Socotra is actually part of a group of four islands, geographically isolated from Africa for the last six or seven million years. Like the Galapagos Islands (HC8), Socotra boasts of over 700 extremely rare species of plants and wildlife. 1/3 of these species are thought to be endemic, that is, found nowhere else on earth.

Situated in the Indian Ocean 250km east of Somalia and 340km southeast of Yemen, Socotra's climate is harsh, hot and dry. It has wide sandy beaches that rise to limestone plateaus filled with caves and mountains up to 1525 meters high (almost 5,000 feet).

The name "Socotra" is derived from a Sanskrit name meaning "The Island of Bliss". But with trees and plants that have survived in splendid isolation for 20 million years, I don't know where the bliss comes from.

You'll see from the accompanying pictures that the island is quite unlike the mainland. The next page shows some shots from Al Hajarah, a walled city in Yemen followed by shots of the island.





The photos include "dracaena cinnabarinus" or Dragon's Blood Tree which is used to make varnish, dye and "cure all" medicines; the "adenium obesum" or Desert Rose; the "dorstenia gigas" which doesn't appear to require any roots and the "dendrosicyos socotranum" or Cucumber Tree.

Socotra has a population of 40,000, but the first roads were put in just two years ago. UNESCO has declared Socotra a "World National Heritage Site".

A World National Heritage Site it may be, but I call it "DX"!

I hope you enjoyed the show as much as I did.

73, Bob

**DX Is!!**











The 3D2C Team requests sponsorship/support for their DXpedition to Conway Reef from September 24<sup>th</sup> to October 5<sup>th</sup>, 2012. Conway Reef-3D2C is IOTA: OC-112

Web Page: <http://www.yt1ad.info/3d2c/index.html>

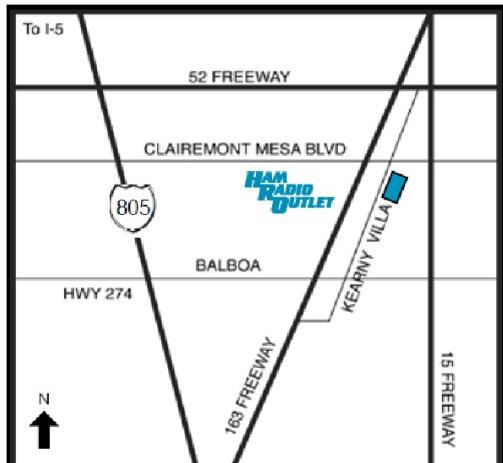
15 member multi-national team has been assembled and led by Dr. Hrane Milosevic, YT1AD

Send donations via PayPal to Dave Jorgenson WD5COV@vtc.net or:

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September 2012 Contests				
Contest	Start Date	Start Time	End Date	End Time
All Asian DX Contest—Phone	1-Sep	0000Z	2-Sep	2400Z
WAE DX Contest—Phone	8-Sep	0000Z	9-Sep	2359Z
CQ WW DX Contest—RTTY	29-Sep	0000Z	30-Sep	2400Z



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